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Instruction and Technology

August 2nd

Web Based Bookmarking

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1. Web based bookmarking utility sites like Portaportal are useful for teachers, because teachers can provide a wide access of content and information to students, while at the same time controlling the websites students access, ensuring they are age and content appropriate. I think it can be particularly useful for research, considering search engines don’t always come up with relevant or useful links. Students can easily access the Portaportal at home or anywhere with Internet, making it easy for them to go to a specific website, without having to bother to remember or type out long URLs.

2. Delicious links you more closely to other people’s bookmarks. You can be part of a community and easily look at the bookmarks of friends. You can also click on the number next to your bookmark to see who else has bookmarked the same website, then you can see what other bookmarks they have! When I did this, I found more great websites I could use, including this one: <http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration/>. It looks like most of the users who bookmarked the same websites as me were also educators! This could be a great way to find good websites that other teachers use in their lessons.

3. Portaportal seems like a good private resource to share with students: the different sections make it clearly organized. The only option is for the links to take you directly to the websites, so students can’t get too excited by extra bells and whistles. Your portal is rather private, only accessible to those who know your username (or not.) You can also make links only visible to you. On the other hand, Delicious is pretty open. It is easy to see what other people are doing, who has bookmarked the same websites as you, and your own bookmarks can be easily viewed by others. You can join a network and send messages to other users. I think this website would be more useful as a teacher tool to see what other teachers are using in their classes, rather than a resource to allow students to have access to.